

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance. The prior art fails to disclose a knob having the following features: an integrated mechanical base made of opaque material and covered by the handle; a light diffuser element housed in the handle and that extends into the hollow space of the cap, and that conducts the light originating from the light source from beneath the integrated mechanical base made to the hollow internal space of the cap; an integrated mechanical base made of opaque material and covered by the handle as recited in claim 14 and 27.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Priority

2. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority based on an application filed in France on 17 December 2003. It is noted, however, that applicant has not filed a certified copy of the 03 14779 (French) application as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b) . (The other French application was received.)

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SHARON E. PAYNE whose telephone number is (571)272-2379. The examiner can normally be reached on regular business hours.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on (571) 272-2378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

4. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Sharon E. Payne/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2875